

2006 Earth Day Awards

The Board of Oil, Gas and Mining Earth Day Awards recognize companies, organizations and individuals for going beyond what is required by regulation while developing essential natural resources.



The Utah Board of Oil, Gas and Mining with 2006 Earth Day Award Recipients.

The National Energy Foundation

Lifetime Achievement in providing educational programs related to the environment, mining, natural resources and energy.

The National Energy Foundation has dedicated itself for the last 30 years to educate students across North America about energy, natural resources, and the environment.



Through programs such as, “Out of the Rock,” “Utah Debate,” “Fueling the Future,” and “Energy Action in Schools,” NEF provides unbiased information to educators and students.

Recognizing the importance and contribution of natural resources to our economy, national security, the environment, and our quality of life, the NEF partners with state agencies, the federal government, and private corporations to fund the development of quality information regarding energy, natural resources, and the environment.

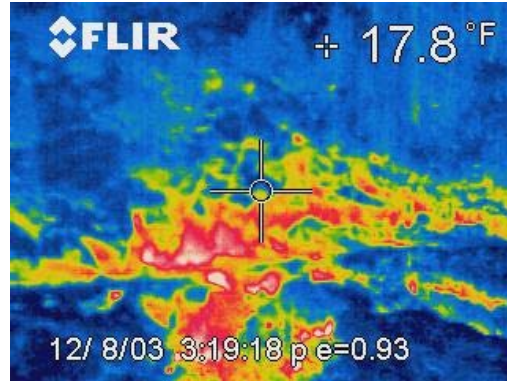


Canyon Fuel Company – Skyline Mine

Assisting the Utah Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Program with research on the Maclean Mine Fire,
Carbon County



The Maclean Mine was active into the mid-20th Century. The underground coal fire began in the 1940s. The “chimney” in the middle foreground was an attempt in the 1980s at controlling the fire.



Although the coal seam is 65-feet deep at this location, heat is evident on the surface as seen in the photo at left. At right, an infrared photo highlights the same area.

Through the years there have been several attempts to extinguish the fire utilizing various technologies, none of which have proved successful.

The Utah Abandoned Mine Program desired gas sampling to help them monitor changes in the fire zone. At \$3,500 per sample it was prohibitively expensive.



Canyon Fuel – Skyline Mine, offered ongoing gas analysis at their facility. Canyon Fuel coordinated with AMRP to collect samples, run the analysis, and report the results, enabling AMRP to interpret the extent and intensity of the fire.

Canyon Fuel Company – SUFCO Mine

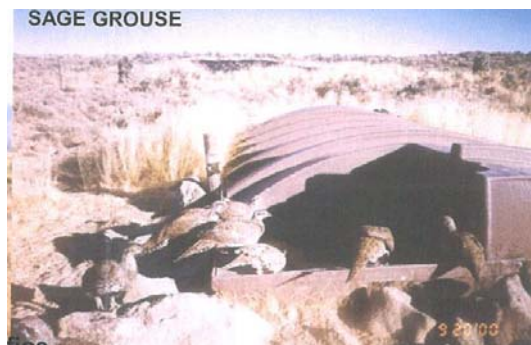
Voluntary Wildlife Habitat Improvement

SUFCO Mine voluntarily participated in a cooperative project for Sage-Grouse wildlife habitat improvement with the Manti La-Sal National Forest and volunteers from the Utah Dedicated Hunter program.

The project involved installing wildlife water catchment tank systems, or “guzzlers,” to provide water during abnormally dry seasons.



SUFCO Mine provided six 1800-gallon guzzlers, equipment, and personnel to install the tanks at three locations within forest lands. Visits to the guzzler sites have confirmed abundant use by sage-grouse, as well as elk and deer.



Energy West Mining Company

Outstanding Final Reclamation -Des-Bee-Dove Mines

Des-Bee-Dove Mine portals were sealed in 1987. Mine waste was used to construct work areas in the main drainage of the canyon. The original mining and reclamation plan called for leaving much of this waste in place and diverting flows away from the fill. However, Energy West Resources perceived that removing the mine waste would improve the landscape appearance and provide greater environmental protection.



Before Reclamation

Approximately 200,000 tons of waste rock and other material was removed from the main drainage, allowing for a re-design of the reclamation plan for the canyon drainage achieving an approximate original contour of the lower portion of the channel.



After Reclamation

Settlement Pond before and after...



Plateau Mining Corporation

Outstanding Final Reclamation -Star Point Mine

The Star Point Mine reclamation involved two major projects – Serviceberry Creek and Lion Deck.



Serviceberry Creek Before Reclamation



Plateau Mining Corporation moved more than 323,000 cubic yards of coal waste material that had been placed prior to surface mine regulations.



As a result the retained cut slopes were dramatically reduced and the Southern Fork of Serviceberry Creek was restored close to its original contours.



Lion Deck area prior to reclamation.



Lion Deck area after reclamation.

Barrick Gold of North America, Inc.

Voluntary Mine Site Reclamation - North Alice, Mercur and Ophir Canyon Projects

After acquiring formerly mined property of the North Alice Mine in the Lisbon Valley southwest of Moab, an area of subsidence was observed. Although under no obligation to do so, Barrick Gold salvaged topsoil from the area, backfilled a depression with approximately 2,900 yards of material, reshaped the area, seeded the area and reclaimed the haul road used to haul the material to the site.



Barrick also donated \$25,000 to Utah's Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program to aid in the sealing of two horizontal adits and one vertical opening in the Mercur Mine site area and more than \$1,500 to help reclamation efforts in the Ophir Canyon project area.

Simplot Phosphate, LLC

Lifetime Achievement - Environmental Education in the Community

Simplot Phosphate LLC has established an aggressive effort to educate citizens, especially children, of Uintah County about mining and the reclamation process. Each year the mine reaches out to elementary school children and the community at large and provides tours of the operations and reclamation.



Highlighted during the tour is 7000 acres of mine property that serves as a wildlife refuge for elk and deer.

The tour provides an in-depth look at the mining and reclamation process including history, geology, and productive post-mining land use.

Nielson Construction Company

Lifetime Achievement - Continued Excellence in Conducting Final Reclamation and Site Restoration Projects

Nielson Construction was the contractor on two outstanding mine reclamation projects recognized with 2006 Earth Day Awards, Energy West's Des-Bee-Dove mines and Plateau Mining Corporation's Star Point Mine.



Nielson Construction has also performed superior work on other reclamation projects, such as the Willow Creek Mine, Castlegate Mine, Cottonwood Fan Portal and Mohrland Mine.

These projects have set a standard of excellence that operators and contractors on other projects seek to emulate.